Lynton, Devon, July 16 -
1846

My dear Sir,

I had given up all intention of writing to you by this packet, having come to this place for my daughter's health, for a week or two, & not having by me your very interesting letter of June 1st: but as yours of June 30 has just been forwarded to me hither, I will write a line of acknowledgment, tho' under some doubts if I shall be in time for the packet. I have only been able to skim your last, and the post soon leaves this village.

Your favorable opinion of my tract is very gratifying, & I am much obliged for your pointing out errors. I think it fortunate they are not more numerous, & more serious.

I despair of satisfying you, or some other & very *decided* A. Slavery friends.

of the tone it was necessary for me
to adopt to secure an entrance for
the tract among that class of people I
thought it most desirable to enlighten
on A.S. matters - Surely few ~~con~~ could
read it attentively without coming to
the conclusion that the Am^n clergy
were too generally faithless to their
duty respecting Slavery - I wished to
divest myself of the appearance of
partisanship in finding fault, and
attributing motives. I believe my
"Brief Notice" will be a good foundation
for more unqualified statements.
I am anxious to get some of our leading
Unit^n Ministers to see the subject
in a truer light than they now do, and
I am assured a stronger course of
blaming their Am^n brethren would
have disposed them less to consider
the subject. Perhaps too, some of the
Am^n Unit^n Ministers will be more
inclined to believe that the cause
will be seriously taken up here, than

they would, had the precise style of attack upon them by the Abolition-societies, been adopted by me.—

I have been gratified already by learning that my efforts have stimulated friends to attend to slavery: one old gentleman on Monday last sent to Miss Carpenter, (& they were as usual forwarded to me) a packet of my "Brief Notice" for the Boston Fair, & also £1 to be laid out according to discretion for the bazaar. Another, an old veteran supporter of liberty, called on me, relating shame to himself that I should be doing so much, & he nothing in aid of the Abolⁿ & desiring to know in what way he could help."

I would have sent more copies to the U.S. but did not imagine they would be ~~deep~~ deemed of any value, so accomp'd abolists among you..

I was concerned when in London last month to hear from Mr Chapman that Murray, to whom his parcels are necessarily forwarded, charges enormously for them: I am much afraid these Select Reports were expensive beyond their real worth.

When in London, I paid several visits to the A. S. Office & had repeated conversations with Scoble, striving to make him see that we, in England, had nothing to do with the divisions of the Abolis. in the U. S. — that it was the Slave and not sects or societies, that we ought to consider about, & act for. He said the Mass. Soc.y would not fraternize with the Brit. & F. S. — that the "Reporter" was regularly sent to them but was not reciprocated by anything of ~~the~~ their publications — Douglass, I believe has won golden opinions from them. I trust D. will not be

spoiled here; but the attention he
has, is enough to turn the brain
of a person circumstanced as he has
been. I may say in confidence (for it
is well for you to know every thing)
a warm and most active friend of F.D.
writes me that it is not very easy to
advise, or serve him, as he manifests
suspicion, & jealousy, towards those
whose disinterested kindness for
him was not to be doubted.

I have reason to know, that
such is the feeling of the British &
A.S. Society as to Am. A.S. politics,
that Mr. Sturge cannot circulate
my tract, on account of the Appendix,
- I presume because books or
persons are referred to favoring the
Old Org. - Do not mention this.

No Americans were in London
at the anniversary of the Unitn Association
in June; had there been, I had another

usual complimentary Resolutions
with regard to them been proposed, I
was prepared to have moved an
addition that our brethren in the
U.S. should be exhorted to ~~come~~ speak out
on the Slavery subject. However, it
so happened that I had to take the
Chair at the business meeting, and
I was rather glad that the subject
was not called on. Next year, I
trust, our body will be more pre-
pared for an expression of senti-
ment, if the occasion offer.

Many friends have thought I ought
to have ~~appended~~ prefixed my name
to the Tract: I believe I gave my
reasons for not doing so; concealment
I did not aim at.

You will be amused ~~th~~ to hear that
your opponent — the "Law of Justice
& Charity" was in Bristol at the late

meeting of the West^n. Unit. Soc^y. & breakfasted at my house with his brother & Dr. Montgomery of Belfast. I gave him my tract, & he read one of your letters to me. I am not aware of his knowing if he had any thing to do in previous correspondence. Dr. M. (~~an~~ no relation of his) says R. J. Montg^y. of Tavistock is an excellent, warm hearted young man. On Monday, the day before I left home, Stephani your other opponent "Amicus" left his card at my house, after your leaving this Bristol. He married a cousin of mine.

I have rec^d. the A. S. Standard of June 25th and shall be glad of others. But the post is about to leave —

Mr. R. D. Webb of Dublin has written to me a great scolding about my opinion of H. C. Wright: but he mistakes my view of him. I regret that his taking every opportunity of sneering at the Sabbath as regarded by those who have no superstitious notions on the subject, disables him from advancing the Anti Slavery cause here, as he otherwise might. I agree in H. C. W's opinions as to the divine appointment of a Sabbath, but believe that were he able to enforce his notions generally, he would weaken the religion of Christians, & give them nothing to supply its place. I must stop. My daughter's kind remembrance

Ever sincerely Yours

J. B. Estlin

Nothing in this letter will do for the N. A. S. S

Ms. B.1.2 v.2 p.20